

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

In an implantable pacemaker the pacing rate is adjusted in synchrony with the respiration of the patient to thereby mimic respiratory sinus arrhythmia noted in healthy patients. Preferably, first a metabolic demand parameter pacing parameter is derived from a metabolic demand of the patient, such as minute volume, and then this parameter is adjusted using a respiration detector. The adjustment may be made dependent on the exercise level of the patient, his age and his physical fitness.

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